

PROCLAMATION **SEVERE WINTER WEATHER AWARENESS WEEK**OCTOBER 31 – NOVEMBER 4, 2005

WHEREAS, North Dakotans can experience a variety of severe winter weather conditions, including extremely cold temperatures, dangerous wind chills, heavy snow, snowstorms, ice storms and freezing rain; and

WHEREAS, on October 5 of this year, the earliest significant snowstorm on record struck North Dakota with heavy snow, rain and high winds, threatening the safety of our citizens and causing damage to public and private property; and

WHEREAS, severe winter weather can cause injury and death through hypothermia, frost bite, heart attack, stroke, traffic accidents, and other related causes; and

WHEREAS, severe winter weather can interrupt electrical and communication services to homes, schools and businesses; and

WHEREAS, the loss of life and property during the winter months can be greatly reduced if North Dakotans take appropriate preparedness measures before, during and after experiencing severe winter weather; and

WHEREAS, the North Dakota Department of Emergency Services is partnering with the National Weather Service, North Dakota Highway Patrol, North Dakota Department of Transportation, North Dakota Game and Fish Department, North Dakota Park Service and North Dakota Fire Marshall's Office, along with county and city management offices, to highlight preparedness procedures and provide winter safety information to citizens throughout the state.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim October 31 – November 4, 2005, **SEVERE WINTER WEATHER AWARENESS WEEK** in the state of North Dakota.

/s/ John Hoeven Governor

Attest:

/s/ Alvin A. Jaeger Secretary of State